

PUBLIC DOCUMENT.....

.....No. 24.

TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE INSPECTORS

OF THE

STATE WORKHOUSE

AT

BRIDGEWATER.

OCTOBER, 1874.

BOSTON:

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1875.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

INSPECTORS' REPORT.

*To His Excellency the Governor and the Honorable Council
of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.*

The Inspectors of the State Workhouse at Bridgewater would submit their Annual Report.

The year just closed has been marked with no essential change in the management of the institution. The superintendence has continued, as heretofore, in the hands of Captain N. Leonard, Jr., whose assiduous labors and watchful care have been the special occasion of acknowledgment on the part of the Inspectors. The general health of the institution has been favorable, having been exempt from contagious disease or prevailing sickness. Dr. E. Sawyer still continues to minister to the sick, and his daily visits are welcomed as the chief solace of many of the unfortunate patients. The large number of chronic cases, for which little can be done save to soothe and alleviate the suffering, calls for kind and patient nursing, as well as discreet medical attention. We cannot fail to attest to the faithfulness with which these duties have been performed, and the general excellent management of the hospital.

During the year past many repairs have been made upon the buildings, and they have been quite thoroughly painted. No special appropriation having been made for this purpose, it has been made from the ordinary appropriation, the labor having been performed by the inmates. The able-bodied men have

been employed upon the farm, which has yielded a bountiful crop. A large amount of labor has also been performed in addition to the ordinary farm work. Five yokes of oxen and two horses have been constantly employed, and about twenty acres of new ground have been cleared and laid down to grass. The employment of so large a number of inmates outside of the yard involves the necessity of a large number of officers to guard and direct them. The very few that have escaped, or attempted to escape, is an indication of the good discipline that has been maintained. The female department has been chiefly employed in the manufacture of clothing for the institution, and for parties in Boston; although quite a large number are occupied in the daily round of washing and cleaning the house. The good order that has prevailed in this department is highly creditable to the Matrons in charge.

This institution having formerly been an almshouse, the impression still prevails that it is simply a pauper establishment. Of the character of the inmates we would state that there is almost every grade of criminal, from the inoffensive vagrant to those who have served long sentences in prison. Sing Sing and Blackwell's Island, our state prison, and almost every jail in the Commonwealth is represented here. With such a class of criminals a low order of intellect prevails, and it is very difficult to make any good or lasting impressions; still, we believe that the thorough discipline, humane management and religious instruction of the institution are calculated to improve and reform. The evening school, in charge of Miss Sophia Bowles, has been continued with as good results as could have been anticipated. Rev. Ebenezer Gay has continued his services as chaplain, and his faithful and earnest labors we cannot but believe have been attended with good results. His report is herewith transmitted. The general physical condition and capacity of the men adapt them more to the employments of the farm than to any skilled labor, and the few who are an exception to this rule precludes, for the present, the introduction of any mechanical labor other than that heretofore performed; viz. the making of shoes for the inmates.

For a more particular account of what has been accomplished, the details of expense, and the sanitary condition

the institution, we refer you to the accompanying reports of the Superintendent and Physician.

The visits of Mrs. Durant and Miss Chickering, of the advisory board, have been made with their accustomed regularity, and have been gladly welcomed by the Superintendent and his assistants. Dr. Calvin Pratt, the Consulting Physician, has been attentive to every call, and his frequent visits and manifest interest in the welfare of the sick are entitled to special acknowledgment.

Of the causes that contribute most largely to the constant supply of inmates to this and similar institutions, we can but reiterate the opinion expressed in a former report, that intemperance is most emphatically the chief.

We would commend the beneficent policy of our Commonwealth in restraining the criminal, and protecting society with every safeguard known to the best-ordered governments, trusting that the day is not far distant when a higher standard of virtue and sobriety shall prevail, that will tend to close every avenue to poverty, degradation and crime.

JOHN B. HATHAWAY,
JOSHUA E. CRANE,
▪ J. WHITE BELCHER,

Inspectors.

BRIDGEWATER, Sept. 30, 1874.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Inspectors of the State Workhouse.

GENTLEMEN:—The report of the State Workhouse for the year ending September 30, 1874, is respectfully submitted.

The whole number of inmates remaining in the institution October 1, 1873, was 347

Male prisoners,	328
Female prisoners,	162
State paupers,	50
Discharged prisoners,	7
Total,	— 347

The whole number of inmates admitted during the year, 488

Male prisoners,	231
Female prisoners,	159
Discharged prisoners,	31
Children (committed with their mothers),	20
Births,	47
	— 488

Whole number supported in the Workhouse, 835

Inmates discharged during the year,—

Prisoners—by expiration of sentence, pardon and elopement,	341
“ died,	32

Paupers—discharged,	28
Discharged prisoners—discharged,	27
Paupers—died,	27
Discharged prisoners died,	5
Total,	460

Remaining October 1, 1874,—

Male prisoners,	119
Female prisoners,	188
Paupers,	62
Discharged prisoners,	6
	375

Largest number during the year,	492
Smallest “ “ “	333
Average “ “ “	403 $\frac{1}{2}$

EXPENDITURES.

From Oct. 1, 1873, to Jan. 1, 1874,	\$15,037 39
Received from treasurer for same time,	15,037 39
From Jan. 1, 1874, to Oct. 1, 1874,	31,394 01
Received from treasurer for same period,	31,394 01
Leaving an unexpended balance of	8,605 99

Total current expenses from Oct. 1, 1873, to Oct. 1, 1874,	\$46,432 40
Receipts from treasurer for same period,	46,432 40

Cash receipts for labor, products of farm, etc.,	\$2,334 95
Labor of inmates,	\$1,552 70
Products of farm, etc.,	782 25
Total,	2,334 95

The above sums have been paid to the treasurer of the Commonwealth, agreeably to the requirements of the statutes.

The current expenses for the year now closed have been as follows, viz. :—

Salaries of Inspectors,	\$380 00
of Physician and Consulting Physician,	700 00
of Chaplain,	200 00
of resident officers,	8,892 63
Sundry persons, incidental labor,	619 37
Dry goods, bedding and furniture,	4,542 74
Tea, coffee, chocolate and shells,	869 88
Leather, shoes and findings,	822 95
Transportation of merchandise,	506 54
Blacksmith and carriage work,	174 28
Cutlery, tin, crockery and other ware,	406 13
Baskets, brooms and brushes,	257 06
Soap and material,	379 31
Hops, salt, malt, vinegar and pepper,	258 25
Light,	235 77
Medicine and hospital supplies,	680 33
Seed and farm tools,	612 36
Stationery and newspapers,	170 04
Post-office expenses,	38 00
Clothing,	190 13
Repairs and findings for sewing-machines,	97 54
“ “ “ for steam fixtures,	253 41
Tobacco, snuff and pipes,	459 67
Lime and cement,	121 70
Painting and material,	585 77
Miscellaneous small goods,	259 37
Hay and bedding for beds,	544 48
Beef and farm stock,	885 10
Ordinary repairs,	243 51
25,240 pounds of feed,	367 59
39 barrels of crackers,	158 25
797 tons of coal,	5,428 91
766 barrels of flour,	5,544 12
<i>Amount carried forward,</i>	<i>\$35,885 69</i>

ASSETS.

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The following is a list of the products of the farm, dairy, piggery, etc. :—

Hay,—including fodder oats and millet,—tons,	135
Corn fodder and oat straw, tons,	25
Turnips, bushels,	1,000
Mangolds and beets, bushels,	1,000
Carrots, bushels,	1,500
Beans, bushels,	50
Potatoes, bushels,	1,600
Sweet corn, bushels,	100
Oats, bushels,	116
Apples, bushels,	700
Cucumbers, bushels,	50
Onions, bushels,	33
Sage, bushels,	8
Peppers, bushels,	4
Tomatoes, bushels,	25
Pears, bushels,	12
Grapes, bushel,	1
Pease, bushels,	10
Lettuce, bushels,	20
Melons, bushels,	20
Pumpkins, tons,	20
Squashes, lbs.,	2,400
Cabbages, heads,	1,000
Strawberries, boxes,	500
Pork,—fattened and killed,—lbs.,	12,000
Veal, “ “ “	700
Beef, “ “ “	5,000
Milk, qts.,	54,000
Butter, lbs.,	1,439
Asparagas, lbs.,	150

An inventory and appraisal of real and personal property have been made by O. F. Mitchell, with the following result :—

Real estate, \$139,520 00

PERSONAL ESTATE.

Live stock,	\$5,976 00
Carriages and agricultural imple- ments,	3,881 25
Products of the farm,	13,914 80
Mechanical tools and machinery,	18,917 50
Beds and bedding,	6,225 00
Other furniture and property,	4,519 00
Personal property in Superintend- ent's department,	5,026 47
Ready-made clothing,	4,258 25
Dry goods,	570 06
Provisions and groceries,	1,305 01
Fuel,	3,269 00
Library and books,	543 00
Drugs and medicines,	333 07
Total personal property,	68,738 41
Total assets,	\$208,258 41

I have thus presented for your consideration, the usual statistics relating to the institution.

Inasmuch as there has been no essential variation in the class of prisoners committed here, nor any material change in the management of the institution, I see no necessity for lengthy remarks, and certainly none for a repetition of statements contained in former reports.

The reports of the Chaplain and Physician, which have been placed before you, give clear and explicit information in regard to their respective departments. I would again bear testimony to their faithful service. The welcome visits of Rev. Mr. Conlin, deserve, as heretofore, grateful acknowledgment, as do those also of Mrs. Durant, Miss Chickering and Dr. Pratt, our Consulting Physician.

But little that is new can be said respecting the schools. The work of giving elementary instruction to adults, whose mental vigor has been sadly impaired by long continued ex-

cesses, is attended with some discouragement, but the hearts of the teachers have now and then been cheered by instances of remarkable success.

The farm may speak for itself, in the list of products herewith submitted.

As heretofore, steady employment has been given to all who were able to labor.

The food issued to the prisoners has been wholesome and abundant; the clothing plain, but comfortable.

The rules in regard to cleanliness and ventilation have been strictly enforced. The nurseries and hospitals have received much attention, and due care has been exercised to keep those departments airy, cheerful, light and clean. We have the satisfaction to believe that the nurses have been patient, faithful and efficient.

The sanitary condition of the house should not be estimated by the number sick in the hospital, nor by the number of deaths recorded during the year.

It must be remembered that we have no choice of patients here.

The drunkard, the vagabond, the dissolute and lewd, whose constitutions have been ruined by misfortune, folly, crime and self-abuse, are sent here from all parts of the Commonwealth, many of whom are in a condition so deplorable that the hope of recovery is entirely abandoned.

With such a class of inmates, the percentage of mortality must inevitably be large, while their contributions, in labor, to the support of the institution, must as inevitably be small.

The year just closed has been attended with some perplexities and trials. But in taking a view of the institution, through its various departments, and in all its numerous details, I am constrained to believe that at no time during my sojourn here, has it more nearly fulfilled our reasonable expectations. The punishments have perceptibly diminished, yet at no time has the spirit of harmony, good order and quietude been more apparent than now.

In the numerous but unavoidable changes that are taking place among the assistants, we sometimes meet with those who are found to be unfitted for their vocations. But generally we have been fortunate in the selection of help.

Upon such as have labored for the welfare of the institution with patience, fidelity and zeal, too much praise cannot be bestowed.

To them and to you, gentlemen, who have so readily co-operated with us in our various undertakings, I am under renewed obligations.

Respectfully submitted.

N. LEONARD, JR.

SEPTEMBER 30, 1874.

OFFICERS' SALARIES.

Joseph B. Thaxter (Inspector), $4\frac{1}{2}$ months, . . .	\$60 00
John B. Hathaway (Inspector), 1 year, . . .	160 00
Joshua E. Crane (Inspector), 1 year, . . .	160 00
Edward Sawyer (Physician), 1 year, . . .	600 00
Calvin Pratt (Consulting Physician), 1 year, . . .	100 00
Ebenezer Gay (Chaplain), 1 year, . . .	200 00
N. Leonard, Jr. (Superintendent), 1 year, . . .	2,000 00
Wm. C. Howland (Assistant Superintendent), 1 year,	800 00
John W. Hannum (Engineer), 1 year, . . .	500 00
John L. Gifford (Overseer of Yard), 6 months, . . .	250 00
John L. Gifford (Carpenter), 4 months, . . .	166 67
John G. Reynolds (Overseer of Yard), 6 months, . . .	250 00
John G. Reynolds (Assistant Farmer), $2\frac{2}{3}$ months, . . .	90 00
Isaac Cottle (Farmer), 6 months, . . .	300 00
Edwin Wells (Assistant Farmer), 6 months, . . .	250 00
John Gorman (Assistant Farmer), 6 months, . . .	200 00
Patrick O'Brien (Baker), 6 months, . . .	240 00
A. D. Grant (Watchman), 9 months, . . .	300 00
A. D. Grant (Assistant Farmer), 3 months, . . .	100 00
John L. Hall (Farmer), 3 months $11\frac{1}{2}$ weeks, . . .	290 63
H. W. Redding (Assistant Farmer), $5\frac{1}{3}$ months, . . .	177 78
E. B. Ellis (Assistant Farmer), 2 months, . . .	66 67
E. B. Ellis (Watchman), 1 month, . . .	33 33
B. F. Risley (Assistant Farmer), $2\frac{1}{10}$ months, . . .	71 00
Z. R. Ellis (Assistant Farmer), $5\frac{1}{2}$ months, . . .	167 71
James Kewer (Baker), $1\frac{3}{4}$ month, . . .	58 34

Amount carried forward, \$7,592 13

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	. \$7,592 13
Wm. Gillispie (Hospital Steward), $3\frac{2}{3}$ months,	120 00
Daniel Leary (Assistant Steward), 1 year,	216 00
Mrs. P. J. Leonard (Chief Matron), 1 year,	350 00
Mrs. S. D. Bowles (Assistant Matron), 1 year,	300 00
Miss Ann Youdell (Assistant Matron), 9 months,	214 50
Miss Margaret Youdell (Assistant Matron), 9 months,	195 00
Miss Angie Dresser (Assistant Matron), 9 months $7\frac{1}{2}$ weeks,	207 67
Mrs. Maria Hannum (Assistant Matron), 6 months $3\frac{1}{2}$ weeks,	118 00
Mrs. Martha Radcliff, (Assistant Matron), $10\frac{1}{2}$ months,	220 00
Mrs. Sarah A. Rowell (Assistant Matron), 10 months,	190 67
Miss Sophie W. Bowles (Teacher), 1 year,	260 00
Mrs. M. J. Bacheller (Assistant Matron), 6 weeks,	24 00
Mrs. Carrie Hayes (Assistant Matron), 4 months $3\frac{1}{2}$ weeks,	83 33
Mrs. Ellen Risley (Assistant Matron), $2\frac{1}{3}$ months,	40 44
Mrs. W. H. Barnes (Assistant Matron), 21 days,	12 00
Miss L. E. Jenks (Assistant Matron), $1\frac{2}{3}$ months,	28 89
Amount,	<hr/> \$10,172 63

PHYSICIAN'S REPORT.

To the Inspectors of the State Workhouse at Bridgewater.

GENTLEMEN:—I herewith respectfully submit the Twenty-First Annual Report of the hospital department of this institution.

SUMMARY.

Number of patients admitted,	432
“ “ “ remaining,	64
“ “ deaths,	61
“ discharged,	367

During the past year we have been comparatively free from contagious diseases. In the months of April and May whooping-cough made its appearance among our children, most of whom were teething, and many enfeebled by inherited disease. Seven of these, under one year of age, died from the direct effect of this disease, and others later, from chronic bronchitis, and kindred diseases engendered by it. With this exception our children have been quite free from contagious diseases peculiar to them, and, as a class, have been very healthy, and in their general appearance have shown unmistakable evidence of the watchful and tender care of our excellent Matron over them. It is to this constant care over, and a free supply of pure air and proper food to them, that we look for good results among this class of our inmates.

During the year forty-seven living children have been born, four of whom were twins; twenty-two of these have died, many of them from inherited disease. By reference to table

No. 2 it will be seen that of the sixty-one deaths there recorded, twenty-two were of children under one, and fifteen of persons over sixty years of age, leaving a small percentage among the adults who, for the most part, make up the number on the sick-list.

At no time during the year have our hospitals been overcrowded, as has been the case formerly, which fact has added much to the comfort and well-being of those who from necessity are confined to them, as well as those having charge over them.

The continued successful efforts of your Superintendent and Matron to promote quiet and good order, as well as cleanliness throughout the institution, the frequent addition of flowers and other ornaments, which speak of a better and purer life to the sick, not only help to repair their bodily ills, but also to improve their mental and spiritual condition, and lead them to feel that they are truly at home and among friends. To them and to the other officers of the institution I would return grateful thanks for their uniform courtesy and assistance in the discharge of my duties.

For further particulars you are respectfully referred to the tables herewith annexed.

I am, gentlemen, yours respectfully,

EDWARD SAWYER, M. D.,

Physician.

BRIDGEWATER, MASS., Sept. 30, 1874.

TABLE No. 1.

Showing the Number of Cases of Sickness in the State Workhouse at Bridgewater, from October 1, 1873, to September 30, 1874, with the Number for each Month, and the Names of the Principal Diseases; also the Average Number on the Sick-List for the Year, and for each Month.

DISEASES.	TOTAL.	October.	November.	December.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.
Debility,	2	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Febrile,	29	10	1	8	1	-	2	1	2	-	1	1	2
Marasmus,	4	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
Parturition,	47	1	1	3	8	6	7	3	4	5	-	3	6
Rheumatism,	31	5	1	1	4	2	3	6	4	1	-	1	3
Other Diseases,	49	1	1	3	2	5	16	4	4	3	1	7	2
<i>Diseases of Alimentary Canal.</i>													
Diarrhoea,	13	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	-	-	2	4
Dysentery,	7	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	1	-	-	1	-
Dyspepsia,	5	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Hepatitis,	50	9	2	5	1	6	2	4	4	1	4	10	2
Other Diseases,	14	-	1	-	4	2	-	-	-	1	1	4	1
<i>Diseases of Nervous Centres.</i>													
Alcoholismus,	9	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	2	-	-	3	-
Epilepsy,	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Neuralgia,	26	-	-	-	3	-	5	-	2	2	3	3	8
Paralysis,	8	1	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	3
Other Diseases,	8	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1

<i>Diseases of Respiratory Organs.</i>												
Bronchitis,	12	2	1	-	1	-	2	1	3	1	-	1
Consumption,	5	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	1	-	-	1
Whooping Cough,	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	3	-	-	-
Pleurisy,	3	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Pneumonia,	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Diseases,	8	-	2	-	5	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
<i>Diseases of the Skin</i>												
Erysipelas,	9	1	-	-	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Other Diseases,	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
<i>Surgical Diseases.</i>												
Abscess,	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fistula,	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Necrosis,	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Ulcers,	15	4	3	1	1	1	4	-	1	-	-	-
Venereal,	38	4	2	4	12	1	3	1	-	3	-	8
Other Diseases,	28	7	-	3	1	3	1	4	4	1	2	-
Totals,	432	47	19	32	56	29	53	36	42	20	13	46
Average number on the sick-list,	104	91	103	112	140	102	130	100	105	92	87	64

TABLE No. 2.

Showing the Causes of Death, the Whole Number, the Sex, the Mental Condition, the Number in each Month, and the Ages of those who have Died in the State Workhouse at Bridgewater, from October 1, 1873, to September 30, 1874; also the Whole Number since the opening of the Institution.

DISEASES OR CAUSES OF DEATH.	Totals.	Males.	Females.	INSANE.			October.	November.	December.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	Under 1.	1 to 2.	2 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 20.	20 to 30.	30 to 40.	40 to 50.	50 to 60.	60 to 70.	70 to 80.	Over 80.
				Males.	Females.	Total.																								
Bright's Disease,	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bronchitis, Chronic,	6	4	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Consumption,	14	12	2	7	-	7	3	1	2	-	-	2	1	3	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	1	1	4	5	1	-	-
Convulsions,	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fistula,	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gastritis,	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Hepatitis,	2	-	2	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough,	7	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Inanition,	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marasmus,	4	2	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Old Age,	6	6	-	2	-	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2
Paralysis,	1	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peritonitis,	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia,	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rheumatism,	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	
Syphilis,	3	2	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever,	8	4	4	2	1	3	2	2	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	-	2	-	1	-	-	-
Total,	61	36	25	11	3	14	10	10	4	4	1	6	11	5	3	1	1	5	22	2	-	-	1	4	7	6	4	7	5	3	-

Whole Number since the opening of the Institution, 2,780

1874.]

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TABLE NO. 3.

Showing the Number of Births in the State Workhouse at Bridgewater, during each Month, from October 1, 1873, to September 30, 1874, with a Statement of the Sex, and whether Illegitimate, Twins or Still-Born; also the Birthplace of the Mothers, and the Whole Number since the opening of the Institution.

MONTHS.	Total.	Males.	Females.	ILLEGITIMATE.			Twins.	Still-Born.	BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHERS.				
				Males.	Females.	Total.			United States.	Ireland.	England.	British Prov- inces.	Other Coun- tries.
October, .	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
November, .	1	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
December, .	3	1	2	1	2	3	-	-	-	1	1	1	-
January, .	8	4	4	4	3	7	-	-	2	1	1	4	-
February, .	6	1	5	1	5	6	2	1	-	3	-	3	-
March, .	7	4	3	2	3	5	-	-	2	2	1	2	-
April, .	2	-	2	2	2	2	-	1	-	1	-	1	-
May, .	4	2		1	2	3	-	-	1	3	-	-	-
June, .	6	2	4	2	4	6	2	-	1	4	-	-	1
July, .	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
August, .	3	3	-	3	-	3	-	-	2	-	1	-	-
September, .	5	3	2	3	2	5	-	-	2	3	-	-	-
Total, .	47	22	25	19	24	43	4	2	11	20	3	12	1

Whole Number since the opening of the Institution, . . . 971

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

*To the Inspectors of the State Workhouse in Bridgewater,
Massachusetts.*

GENTLEMEN :—In making my Annual Report, I have nothing essentially different to state from what I have said in past years. There is a uniformity, and almost a monotony, in the exercises of the chapel. The attendance of the inmates of the house has been orderly, and the attention given to the services inspires the hope that our labors have not been in vain. The result we must leave with Him who can bless the feeblest means. There can be no doubt that impressions have been made upon many minds that will be salutary and lasting. Too much is often expected by those who have but little or no experience with such characters as are found in this and similar institutions. Habits have been matured for years, which cannot be changed in a day or a year. Those who are advanced in life generally pursue to the end the course which they had shaped in their younger days. Generally, indeed, after a certain period, their habits become as firmly established as the everlasting hills, as unchangeable as the skin of the Ethiopian or the spots of the leopard. Hence, although the obligation to be good and useful is never cancelled, while life and the active powers of life last, yet in the aged and matured, if the principle of good has not already been established in them, and the work of love already begun by them, there can be but little hope of producing reformation, and but little expectation of being able to enforce upon them a practical regard to the moral and religious duties of life. Still, under the wise and vigilant care of your able Superintendent,

and the patient and affectionate labors of the judicious Matron, and their several able and faithful assistants, it is to be hoped and believed that the good seed sown will not all be lost.

Too much cannot be done for the reformation of criminals and the welfare of the imbecile and insane. But it is exceedingly doubtful whether strangers, however well disposed, can do as much good to them as regular, competent overseers. By occasional visits they leave the impression on some minds that they care more for this unfortunate class of people than their regular attendants. But it is evident that those who see them daily, and often by night, must be better acquainted with their character and condition than those who see them only occasionally.

As men are social beings, and as civil government is necessary to the existence of social order and personal liberty, it is necessary that the laws of society be strictly maintained, although transgressors fall under severe penalties, and suffer the consequences of their evil courses. The law is designed to be a terror to evil-doers. Whether men be rich or poor, high or low, the sanctions of the law must invariably and inflexibly follow its violation. It is so in the natural world, and so it ought always to be in the moral world, and then there will be less crime and a more secure state of society. It is time to put aside all weak sentimentalism on the subject of punishing criminals. Government is instituted for the protection of society. The welfare of the State must be protected at all hazards. Yet so much weakness, under the assumed name of pity, has taken possession of so many minds, that the wicked grow bold in sin under the delusion that, if detected in their mischief, they shall escape the penalties of the law by the caresses of love or gratuitous pardon. Thus crime increases in the land, and transgressors grow bold in sin.

No matter how much is done for the reformation of the wayward, the thoughtless and the vicious, let them know that they have done wrong, and if mild measures will not avail for their good, let them feel the lash of justice; let them be restrained of their liberty, and made to know that the way of transgressors is hard. Thus they will be corrected in true

love, and possibly saved from the condemnation of eternal justice.

And since all true morality has its foundation in the truths of God's word, we see the wisdom of providing for all people the exhibition of those truths. Sceptics and scientists may talk of virtue in the fitness of things. But the world over, nowhere can you find purity, uprightness, love to man and strict justice, except as drawn from the spirit of the Bible. Leave out the teachings of the Scriptures, and in vain will you labor to reform the refractory and improve society. A sense of God and his omnipresence and justice alone will prevent a course of evil. It is the sense, the feeling that the eye of God is upon us at all times and in every place, that restrains the wayward passions of sinful men.

Impressed with these truths, I have endeavored to present to the unfortunate class of our fellow-beings assembled in the chapel of the Workhouse the truths of the Bible in plain and simple language, so that the most unlearned may learn the way of virtue, peace and salvation. Though there may be but little apparent immediate reformation, yet the regular attendance on the services of the Sabbath, and the attentive and orderly behavior then and there witnessed, constrain us to believe that some good will follow.

All which is respectfully submitted.

EBENEZER GAY.

BRIDGEWATER, September 30, 1874.